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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Working Party on the Medium-term Plan
and the Programme Budget
Thirty-first session
Geneva, 14 April 1998
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. Savings resulting from the improved overall cost-effectiveness achieved pursuant to the ninth session of the Conference

4. UNCTAD's publication policy

5. Provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Working Party

6. Other business

7. Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Trade and Development Board.

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 - Election of officers

1. Under rule 64, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the Trade and Development Board, and in accordance with the cycle of rotation for the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur, the Chairman of the Working Party at its thirty-first session shall be a representative of one of the States members in List C (Latin America and Caribbean Group). The Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur shall be a representative of one of the States members in list B.

Item 2 - Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Working Party is reproduced in section I above. Substantive items 3 and 4 were decided upon by the Trade and Development Board at its sixteenth executive session on 16 February 1998. A note on the organization of work of the session will be circulated at the opening of the meeting.

TD/B/WP/106 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3 - Savings resulting from the improved overall cost-effectiveness achieved pursuant to the ninth session of the Conference

3. Pursuant to paragraphs 52-54 of General Assembly resolution 52/220 and to Board decision 447(EX-16), the report prepared by the secretariat analyses the financial impact of the reform of the secretariat and of the restructuring of the UNCTAD intergovernmental machinery. The impact is estimated in terms of "savings" by comparing the difference in the level of resources allocated to carry out the initial work programme in 1996-1997 and that provided for implementing the new work programme in the 1998-1999 biennium.

TD/B/WP/107 Analysis of savings resulting from the improved overall cost-effectiveness achieved pursuant to the ninth session of the Conference, including the restructuring of the intergovernmental machinery and the reform of the secretariat: Report by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 4 UNCTAD's publication policy

4. For the purpose of continuing its scrutiny of UNCTAD's publication policy in terms of paragraph 107 (a) of "A Partnership for Growth and Development" (TD/378), the Board will have before it the "Report on documentation and publications" (TD/B/EX(15)/5) and the "Progress report on the implementation of UNCTAD's publications policy" (TD/B/EX/(16)/3 and Add.1). The outcome of the readership survey of UNCTAD documents and publications issued in 1997 will also be made available.

TD/B/EX(15)5	Report on documentation and publications
TD/B/EX(16)/3 and Add.1	Progress report on the implementation of UNCTAD's publications policy

Item 5 - Provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Working Party

5. The UNCTAD secretariat will submit to the Working Party for its consideration a draft provisional agenda for its thirty-second session.

In-session documentation

Item 6 - Other business

Item 7 - Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Trade and Development Board

6. The final report will be compiled under the authority of the Chairman taking into account the proceedings of the final (closing) plenary meeting and submitted to the seventeenth executive session of the Trade and Development Board.